(c) whether all the employees of AIR and Doordarshan would come under these new norms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a).

Guidelines for reality shows on TV channels

1945. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the reality shows being sponsored by almost all TV channels are on an increase;

(b) whether there is any regulatory authority to clear such programmes;

(c) whether any guidelines are given to jury for judging the performance of the artistes, not to scold any participant for his/her performance, if his/her performance is not found upto the mark of jury;

(d) whether Government has come across any case wherein a participant had become subject to scolding of judge(s) and had undergone depression causing loss of his/her speech; and

(e) if so, whether Government proposes to issue some guidelines for the jury in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) No such specific study has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Although the same has been reported in the media, no such specific complaint has been received. However, existing provision under Rule 6(1)(l) of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 prohibits the transmission of any programme that denigrates children.

Decency in television programmes

†1946. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has taken or proposes to take effective steps so that programmes on television channels are presented within the limits of decency; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA) : (a) to (b) All the broadcasters/Cable operators/other broadcasting

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

platforms are governed by the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the said Act. The Committee either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaints, examines cases of violation of the Codes. If any violation is noted by the Committee, action is taken against the TV channel as per rules. The Government had also constituted a committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks(Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder to provide greater specificity to the provisions of existing Codes. The Committee has submitted its report on 5.3.2008 which is available on the Ministry's website *www.mib.nic.in* under heading 'Code and Guidelines' sub-heading 'Self Regulation Guidelines 2008' for wider public consultation.

Telecast of newsitems

1947. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether constant telecast of interviews of a crucial Delhi blast eyewitness has raised serious concern and National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has raised objections on this issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has issued an advisory to the Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) and News Broadcasters Association (NBA) to direct channels not to telecast any newsitem which may endanger the life of a person; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) A reference from National Commission for Protection of Child Right(NCPCR) was received against telecast of Live interview of the balloon seller Rahul, a key witness in Bomb blast In Delhi which took place in September, 2008.

(c) and (d) An advisory has been issued to Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) and News Broadcaster Association (NBA) to advise their member channels not to telecast such news items which may endanger the life of a person and to exercise more restraint in selection of their content.

Draft code content for TV programmes

1948. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether draft code content submitted by Indian Broadcasting Federation to Government for its approval has categorized television programmes into two classes, one for general viewing and the other for restricted viewing;